

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING CORPSMAN 2ND CLASS CHARLES LUKE MILAM

#### HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the sacrifice of a fallen hero and Marine from my district, Corpsman 2nd Class Charles Luke Milam of Littleton. Petty Officer Milam was killed on September 25 during combat operations in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan.

Petty Officer Milam was killed while serving on his fourth deployment overseas; this being his first to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Since joining the Navy following his high school graduation in 1999, Charles carried on a family tradition of service to his nation. He was just 26 years old.

Petty Officer Milam was assigned to the 2nd Marine Special Operations Battalion of the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Camp in Lejeune, North Carolina. He attended basic training in Illinois before graduating from Naval Hospital Corps School Camp in Lejeune. He then went on to train at the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center before his deployment.

Charles was born in Albuquerque, New Mexico but found his home in Colorado after he moved with his family to Littleton in 1992. After graduating from Columbine High School, he pursued a lifelong ambition of serving his country by enlisting in the Navy.

Petty Officer Milam was a decorated Marine and steadfast patriot; an American who honored the principles of freedom and democracy by courageously defending them from tyranny and oppression. His life, characterized by service and commitment, is a testament to the best America has to offer.

Madam Speaker, my most heartfelt condolences go out to Charles's family and friends. He will be missed by all those who knew and loved him.

### PAYING TRIBUTE TO JO PICONE

#### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay great honor to Jo Picone, a Radiologic Technologist from Hartford, CT, who has dedicated her life to the care of others. Since 1948, Jo has worked to ensure the health and well-being of her patients, children, and community. Indeed, although she officially retired from her 38-year ER career in 2000, the 78-year-old continues to work part-time at an outpatient clinic.

The daughter of Italian immigrants, Jo graduated from the Massachusetts School of Physical Therapy and Medical Technology, and completed her clinical training at Massachu-

setts General and Beth Israel hospitals in Boston. She received further training at St. Luke's Hospital in New Bedford, Massachusetts. As a student, Ms. Picone found that she loved the art and science of radiology, as well as the patient care. And this love has certainly stayed with her through the years.

While in Boston, Jo was secretary of the Massachusetts Society of Radiologic Technologists. Through this position, she was able to meet influential members of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT), an organization with which she has worked closely. For over 50 years now, Jo has been involved with ASRT and state affiliate functions.

Her career progressed in Massachusetts; she became a senior technologist at Marlboro Hospital and then chief technologist at Boston State Hospital. It was there that she met and fell in love with Angelo Picone, a psychiatric social worker. They married and moved to Connecticut, where Angelo worked in the Hartford school system. Together, they raised 6 children—five boys and a girl. Though she stayed home when they were young, Jo worked 60-hour weeks in the ER at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center to put each of her children through college.

Jo is well-respected among her colleagues. Many recognize her tireless work on Connecticut's first licensure bill that passed in 1993. Jo is also known for her advocacy in DC in support of the Consistency, Accuracy, Responsibility and Excellence in Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy bill (H.R. 583), of which I am a cosponsor.

Jo retired in 2000 after 33 years in the emergency room at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, Connecticut. However, she continues to work at a Saint Francis outpatient clinic throughout the week. Jo also volunteers at Saint Francis for the teen safety program, "Let's Not Meet by Accident," which educates new drivers in high school about the effects of poor decisionmaking.

Jo is truly in possession of an upbeat attitude and zest for her profession. Co-workers know her as someone who is fun to be around and full of life. According to one, "She can out-work anyone half her age." I have had the personal experience of having her treat family members with care, professionalism, and the warmth that comes from a nurturing soul.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the tremendous work and service of Jo Picone. Jo lives by the words of baseball legend Jackie Robinson "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." I am honored to know such a remarkable individual.

### INTRODUCING STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

#### HON. MIKE FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Speaker, my colleague from Utah, Mr. MATHESON, and I are introducing legislation to improve public health and specifically to provide a more comprehensive approach to combat antimicrobial resistance. Simply put, the "bad bugs" evolve and build resistance to our antibiotics and we need to do more to keep up with them.

As a member of the Energy & Commerce Committee, I and my colleagues, recently completed reauthorization of the user fees supporting drug and device approvals by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The bill included several provisions aimed at enhancing antibiotic research and development and improving the resistance information available. New antibiotics are an important part of addressing this problem, but a multipronged approach is necessary to make a significant difference.

The story of a young, active 17-year-old girl, Rebecca, from New Jersey caught my attention. Rebecca lost her life due to methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), an antibiotic-resistant infection. Her mother, Linda, is willing to share her daughter's story because she was a public health nurse for 15 years and she wants us all to learn from their tragic experience.

Rebecca's death changed her family, and it should change us too. For more than a decade there have been countless studies and reports proving antimicrobial resistance is a real and growing problem. The Institutes of Medicine, the World Health Organization, the Infectious Diseases Society of America, have all helped to define the problem. The data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have demonstrated the growing trend in resistant infections. We have missed opportunities to swiftly identify and address resistant infections allowing the spread of these bad bugs—these infections don't recognize state or national borders.

Nearly seven years ago, the Interagency Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance published (in January 2001) its Public Health Action Plan to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance. The Action Plan identifies 13 "top priority" action items regarding surveillance, research and education. Regrettably, there has not been adequate funding to implement even the top priority items of the plan and this is an area that will benefit from improved leadership and coordination—especially because it is an issue that crosses many agencies and requires involvement from all stakeholders.

The Strategies To Address Antimicrobial Resistance (STAAR) Act enhances leadership at HHS to work with the various agencies and solicit outside expertise. It reauthorizes and

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